

## RESPONSE TO THE EXAMINING AUTHORITYS QUESTIONS

### ExQ3

#### Q1.1.1 Safe distance to live from solar arrays

I appreciate that I wrongly assumed that the ID: 28466, was a WHO reference to a recommendation not to site solar arrays within 2 miles of housing.

However I have sourced a document from Irish Solar <https://irish.solar/what-is-a-safe-distance-to-live-from-a-solar-farm> which states, “according to the World Health Organization (WHO), despite extensive research, there’s no evidence that low-level electromagnetic field exposure from facilities like solar farms harms human health. Nevertheless, for those who may still have concerns, authorities recommend maintaining a distance of at least 2 kilometres, roughly 1.2 miles, from a solar field”.

If this link is also to be discredited, might I add a dose of common sense and reality from a human perspective?

Such large solar arrays (and BESSs), especially of this scale, are still in their infancy in the U.K. and so too is the possibility of any evidential material that highlights the negative implications of living in close proximity to such a site.

The frenetic political drive to achieve the self-imposed target of net zero by 2030, the billions of pounds of investment being made available to support businesses in joining this bandwagon (and the rapid technological progression) is outpacing not only fire and rescue services in their bid to protect themselves, the public and the environment but also the governments desire to introduce necessary mandatory safety legislation.

It also prevents any serious consideration, discussion or research as to the safety, mental and physical health and well-being of the people who are having these long term changes, on an industrial scale, inflicted upon them.

For a moment, imagine viewing a field of barley over your garden fence and listening to the sound of the countryside - for this to then be replaced by prison-like mesh fencing. You are now looking into a sea of rotating panels 3m high, and listening to the continuous noise from the tracking mechanism and supporting infrastructure 24/7, 365 days of the year.

It is the stuff of nightmares!

You wonder if your property could ever be sold. Who would want to buy a house next to that?

You are left feeling trapped, utterly hopeless and powerless, and unable to do anything about it.

#### **This is our reality.**

Such feelings are a classic recipe for stress induced illness, affecting the mental and physical health and wellbeing of such residents which is being totally ignored by developers (and politicians).

All we can hope is that the Examiner takes a humanitarian standpoint, seeing beyond the rigid strictures of the planning consent process and gives serious consideration to the long term health impacts of this proposal.